CONFIDENTIAL

How to Protect Your Computer from Hackers, Viruses and Spies

Online Safety Is Important

We must secure our computers with technology in the same way that we secure the doors to our homes

Leading Threats to PC Security

Viruses/Worms

Software programs designed to invade your computer, and copy, damage or delete your data

Trojan Horses

Viruses that pretend to be programs that help you while destroying your data and damaging your computer
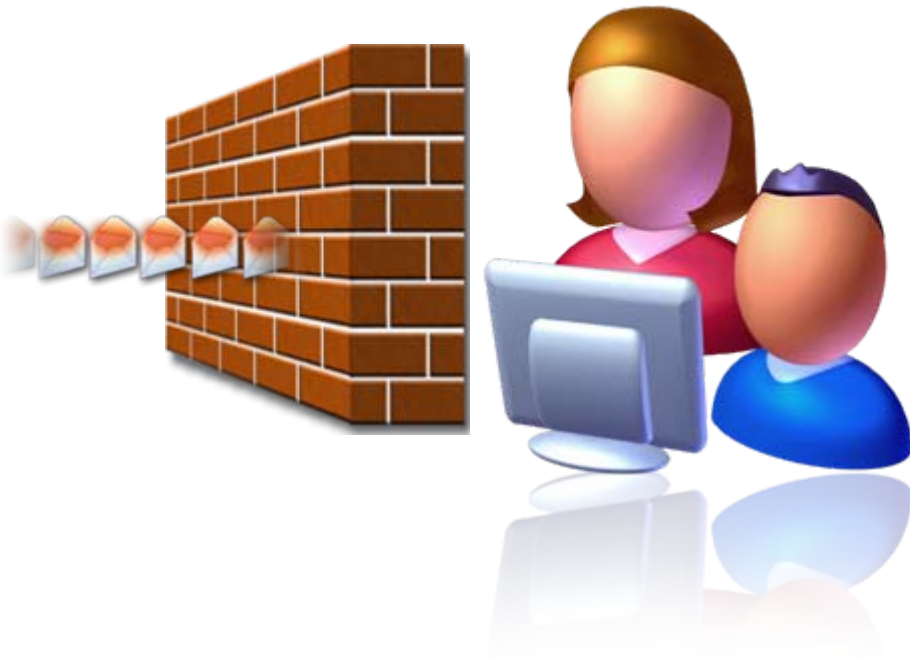
Spyware

Software that secretly watches and records your online activities or send you endless pop-up ads

Four Steps To Protect
Your Computer

1 Turn on an Internet firewall

2 Keep your operating system up to date

3 Install and maintain antivirus software

4 Install and maintain antispyware software

Turn on an Internet Firewall

An Internet firewall is like a moat around a castle, creating a barrier between your computer and the Internet

Keep Your Operating System Updated

- Install all security updates as soon as they are available

- Automatic updates provide the best protection

Install Antivirus Software

Don't let it expire

- Anti-virus software can detect and destroy computer viruses before they can cause damage

- Just like flu shots, for anti-virus software to be effective, you must keep it up to date

Install And Maintain Antispyware Software

Use anti-spyware software so unknown people cannot lurk on your computer and potentially steal your information

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Leading Threats to Personal Online Safety

Phishing

E-mail sent by online criminals that tries to trick you into revealing personal information

Spam

Unwanted e-mail, instant messages, e-cards, and other online communication

Hoaxes

E-mail sent by online criminals that tries to trick you into giving them money

Identity Theft

A crime where con artists get your personal information and access your cash and/or credit

YOU'VE JUST WON!

Take Steps to Help Protect *Yourself*

1 **Practice** Internet behavior that lowers your risk

2 **Manage** your personal information carefully

3 **Use** technology to reduce nuisances, and raise the alarm when appropriate

Delete Spam without Opening It

- Never reply to spam
- Technology can help you identify spam so you can delete it
- Many Internet providers delete it for you

Be on the Lookout for Scams!

There are signs that you can alert you of e-mail scams

- Alarmist messages and threats of account closures

- Promises of big bucks for little effort

- Deals that sound too good to be true

- Misspellings and grammatical errors

Don't Share Personal Information

- Delete e-mails that request personal information

- Do not use e-mail or instant messages to share personal information

Use Strong Passwords

- Keep passwords private and create ones that are hard to "crack"

- Never share your passwords with friends or be tricked into giving them away

More Safe Internet Behavior

Back up your files regularly

Think before you click

Read website privacy statements

Close pop-ups using red "X"

Back Up Your Files

- Save to CD, DVD or flash drive
- Use a Web-based backup service

Think Before You Click

- Don't open e-mail attachments unless you know what they contain and who sent them

- Only download files from websites you trust

Read Privacy Statements

Understand what you are getting before you agree to download or share your personal information

Close Pop-ups Using Red "X"

- Always use the red "X" in the corner of a pop-up screen
- Never click "yes," "accept" or even "cancel", because it could be a trick that installs software on your PC

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Take Steps to Help Protect *Your Family*

1 **Talk** with your kids about what they do online

2 **Keep** personal information private

3 **Set** clear rules for Internet use

4 **Use** family safety software

Pay Attention to What Your Kids Do Online

- Keep the computer in a central area

- Get to know how your kids use the Internet

- Let your kids be the teacher

- Teach kids to trust their instincts

- And to report any problems

Keep Personal Information Private

- Teach children never to share personal information online without permission

- Monitor your children's online activities

- Teach your children to report suspicious activity

- Help children choose appropriate screen names and e-mail addresses

For More Information

www.geeksquad.com/centralintelligence

www.microsoft.com/protect

www.staysafe.org

www.getnetwise.org

Go Ahead. Use Us.